AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1.   (Currently Amended) A method of semantically representing a target entity using a semantic object, the method comprising:

identifying a set of meta-tags having associated metadata entries in the target entity to semantically represent a set of attributes associated with the target entity in [[a]] the semantic object, the semantic object being stored on a computer-readable storage medium:

wherein at least one meta-tag of the set of meta-tags is defined using an ontology;

wherein storing in a first metadata entry in the semantic object on the computer-readable storage medium an attribute including the set of attributes comprises at least one attribute for specifying an access policy that specifies how the semantic object is shared over a network: of the semantic object representing the target entity;

wherein a type of the target entity is one of a physical entity, a software entity, and an intangible entity;

identifying storing, in a second metadata entry in the semantic object on the computer-readable storage medium, another attribute that specifies a first user that is an author of the semantic object; a metadata entry for a meta-tag of the set of meta-tags;

wherein the metadata entry semantically represents an attribute of the set of attributes;

wherein one or more of the metadata entry and the meta-tag is definable by an ontology

sharing, over a network, the semantic object with a second user via a computational device in accordance with the access policy of the semantic object; and

displaying the semantic object on a display screen of the computational device. for enabling access to the target entity;

wherein the target entity is identifiable via one or more of the meta-tag and the metadata entry associated with the semantic object.

2.   (Canceled)

3.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising ~~a method for documenting information, the method comprising~~:

creating a second semantic object ~~that is configured~~ to represent ~~resource~~ information resource or tacit information, the second semantic object comprising meta-tags for identifying semantic information, and rules regarding at least one of: how the second semantic object (i) interacts with, (ii) is manipulated by, and (iii) is displayed to human beings and automated processes;

seeking to detect an information resource containing information that is ~~can be~~ represented by the second semantic object; and

if the information resource is found, linking the second semantic object to the information resource such that the second semantic object represents the information resource,

wherein the second semantic object is also configured to have a link to or from any number of other semantic objects.

4.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3, wherein the information resource is found, the method further comprising providing the second semantic object with meta-data about the information resource.

5.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3, wherein the information resource is not found, and wherein the second semantic object represents the tacit information.

6.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3, wherein the second semantic object is created before seeking to detect the information resource.

7.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3, wherein the information resource is detected before creating the second semantic object.

8.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7, wherein the information resource is detected upon the information resource being published <u>on the Internet</u>.

9.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8, wherein any entity that publishes the information resource triggers the creation of the second semantic object.

10. – 12. (Cancelled)

13.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 3, further comprising linking the second semantic object to at least one of the other semantic object in the <u>computer-readable storage medium.</u> ~~library.~~

14.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the <u>semantic object represents a</u> physical entity <u>comprising,</u> ~~comprises,~~ one or more of, a living organism, a person, a place, an organization, a corporation, an object, a physical item, a processor, a machine, a natural entity, and an artificial entity.

15.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the <u>semantic object represents a</u> <u>digital object comprising,</u> ~~software entity comprises,~~ one or more of, a document, an email, an address book entry, a message, an instant message, a query, a discussion thread, a posting, an XML message, a file, a directory, multimedia content, a website, a web-page, a blog, and a data record.

16.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the <u>semantic object represents</u> intangible entity <u>comprising,</u> ~~comprises,~~ one or more of, a relationship, an interaction, a

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link, a semantic relationship, a keyword relationship, a personal relationship, a connection, a transaction, an event, a type of activity, knowledge, content, an idea, and a concept.

17.   (Cancelled)

18.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the set of meta-tags are identified at least partially ~~determined from~~ based on the object type of the target entity that the semantic object represents.

19.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the set of attributes of the target entity further comprises policies regarding one or more of interaction with the target entity, manipulation of the target entity, and presentation of the target entity.

20.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the semantic object ~~representation~~ is machine-readable or human-readable.

21.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the metadata is user-specified or machine-specified. ~~user-specifiable or machine-specifiable~~.

22.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the metadata is retrieved ~~retrievable~~ on-demand.

23.   (Cancelled)

24.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the semantic object is automatically generated by the computational device. ~~metadata is modifiable.~~

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25.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the metadata represents one or
       more of:

            a link to second target entity having a first identified relationship matching one of
       a predetermined set of semantic or peer relationships; and

            a link from a third target entity having a second identified relationship matching
       one of the predetermined set of semantic or peer relationships.

26.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 25, wherein one or more of the first
       identified relationship and the second identified relationship is detected from a user
       triggered event.

27.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 25, wherein one or more of the first
       identified relationship and the second identified relationship is user-specified.

28.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 18, wherein the metadata provides data about
       the structure of the semantic representation.

29-35. (Cancelled)

36.   (New) The method of claim 1, wherein, the set of meta-tags used to represent the target
       entity are identified manually.

37.   (New) The method of claim 1, wherein, the set of meta-tags used to represent the target
       entity are identified by automatic selection from a plurality of meta-tags.

38.   (New) The method of claim 37, further comprising, performing the automatic selection
       according a heuristic rule.

39.   (New) The method of claim 38, wherein, the heuristic rule is determined based on popularity of each of the plurality of meta-tags with a group of authors or users.

40.   (New) The method of claim 1, wherein, the identity section further specifies an owner of the semantic object.

41.   (New) The method of claim 1, wherein, the identity section further specifies a recipient individual or a recipient group of the semantic object.

42.   (New) The method of claim 41, wherein, the identity section further specifies a fuzzy definition of a set of qualifications of the recipient individuals or the recipient group of the semantic object.

43.   (New) The method of claim 1, wherein, the identity section further specifies a list of users who has modified the semantic object.

44.   (New) The method of claim 43, wherein, the list of users further includes users who have performed, one or more of, copied, received, and deleted the semantic object.

45.   (New) The method of claim 1, wherein, the identity section further specifies one or more of, parties who have rated the semantic object and parties who have annotated the semantic object.

46.   (New) The method of claim 1, wherein, the identity section further specifies parties that have been matched to the semantic object.

47.   (New) The method of claim 1, wherein, the semantic object includes a link to a display specification.

48.   (New) The method of claim 47, wherein, the display specification is determined based on the display device used for viewing the semantic object.

49.   (New) The method of claim 47, wherein, the display specification is represented by another semantic object.

50.   (New) The method of claim 15, wherein, the digital object comprises streaming media.

51.   (New) The method of claim 15, wherein, the digital object comprises an advertisement.

52.   (New) The method of claim 15, wherein, the digital object comprises a web site or web page.

53.   (New) The method of claim 1,

        wherein, the semantic object is manually generated by the author; and

        wherein, at least one metadata entry of the semantic object is provided by the author.

54.   (New) The method of claim 53, wherein, a description and comment of the target entity represented by the semantic object is provided by the author.

55.   (New) The method of claim 53, wherein, another metadata entry is automatically identified by the computational device.

56.   (New) The method of claim 24, wherein, the computational device data mines the Internet to generate the semantic object.

57.   (New) A system for semantically representing a target entity using a semantic object, the

        system, comprising,

        a network component;

        wherein, the network component manages data received by and transmitted from the

system;

        an identity manager coupled to the network component;

        wherein, the identity manager manages identities of a set of users and user groups of the

system;

        wherein, the identity manager further specifies an author of the semantic object that

represents a digital object, the author of the semantic object being associated with a first

metadata entry of the semantic object;

        an automation component coupled to the identity manager;

        wherein, the automation component specifies an access policy that specifies how the

semantic object is shared over a network, the access policy being associated with a second

metadata entry of the semantic object;

        a router module coupled to the automation component;

        wherein, the routing module routes the semantic object over the network to another user

in accordance with the access policy of the semantic object.

58.   (New) The system of claim 57, further comprising, a fuzzy matching engine for

        estimating conception distance between semantic objects.

59.   (New) The system of claim 57, further comprising, a test post facility for testing

        semantic objects before they are posted.

60.   (New) A system for semantically representing a target entity using a semantic object, the system, comprising,

means for automatically selecting, according to a heuristic rule, a set of meta-tags from multiple meta-tags to represent a set of attributes of the target entity in the semantic object

means for determining the heuristic rule being determined based on popularity of the multiple meta-tags with a group of users;

wherein a meta-tag of the set of meta-tags is defined using an ontology;

means for storing in a first metadata entry in the semantic object, an attribute including an access policy that specifies how the semantic object is shared over a network;

means for storing, in a second metadata entry in the semantic object, another attribute that specifies an author of the semantic object;

means for storing, in a third metadata entry in the semantic object, another attribute that specifies a recipient individual or a recipient group of the semantic object;

means for sharing, over a network, the semantic object with the recipient individual or the recipient group.

61.   (New) The system of claim 60,

wherein the set of meta-tags used to represent the target entity are identified by automatic selection from a plurality of meta-tags; and

wherein the automatic selection is performed according a heuristic rule determined based on popularity of each of the plurality of meta-tags with a group of authors or users.

62.   (New) A method of semantically represent a target entity using a semantic object, the method comprising:

automatically identifying a set of meta-tags having associated metadata entries -to represent attributes associated with the target entity in the semantic object that is stored on a computer-readable storage medium;

wherein a meta-tag of the set of meta-tags is defined using an ontology;

storing, in a first metadata entry in the semantic object on the computer-readable storage medium, an attribute including an access policy that specifies how the semantic object is shared over a network;

storing, in a second metadata entry in the semantic object on the computer-readable storage medium, another attribute that specifies a display specification;

wherein, the display specification is determined based on a display device used for viewing the semantic object;

displaying the semantic object on the display device according to the display specification.

63.   (New) The method of claim 62, wherein, the display specification is represented by another semantic object linked by the semantic object.